

# GARDA CAPITAL PARTNERS LP



## Part 2A of Form ADV The Brochure

9320 Excelsior Boulevard, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Hopkins, Minnesota 55343  
(612) 330-4900  
[www.gardacp.com](http://www.gardacp.com)

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This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Garda Capital Partners LP ("Garda" or the "Company"). If you have any questions regarding the contents of this brochure, please contact us at (612) 330-4900. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") or by any state securities authority.

Garda Capital Partners LP is a registered investment adviser. Registration of an investment adviser does not imply any level of skill or training.

Additional information about Garda Capital Partners LP is also available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

## **ITEM 2. MATERIAL CHANGES**

This brochure is Garda's first brochure. As a result, there is no prior version of this brochure to compare the content of this brochure against. In the future, this item will include a summary of material changes, if any, which occurred since Garda's last annual update of Form ADV Part 2A.

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#### **ITEM 4. ADVISORY BUSINESS**

Garda Capital Partners LP (“Garda”) is a newly formed Delaware limited partnership, established in 2015, which is owned by founding partners Jeffrey Drobny, Timothy Magnusson and Robert Goedken (collectively, the “Partners”). The Company’s main operations are currently located in Hopkins, Minnesota.

In addition to its principal place of business in Minnesota, Garda has also established a Swiss limited company in Geneva, Switzerland (Garda Capital Partners Sarl or “Garda Switzerland”) as a subsidiary advisory entity to implement certain strategies related primarily to European and Asian investment assets pursuant to a sub-advisory agreement with Garda.

Garda will provide investment management services to private pooled investment vehicles or single investor funds (the “Garda Funds” or “Funds”) offered to investors on a private placement basis. The interests in the Funds offered by Garda will not be registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the Funds themselves will not be registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. As a result, investors in the Garda Funds do not have the benefit of the protections afforded by, nor are the Funds subject to the restrictions resulting from, such registrations and regulations. Accordingly, interests in the Funds are offered and sold exclusively to U.S. and non-U.S. investors satisfying the eligibility and suitability requirements applicable to private transactions under applicable U.S. law. Investments in the Garda Funds are limited to sophisticated institutional investors, including corporations, pension plans, sovereign wealth funds, endowments and foundations, private wealth management firms, and fund-of-funds, as well as to Garda and knowledgeable Garda employees.

The Garda Funds will be managed according to the terms and investment objectives set forth in each Fund’s Confidential Private Placement Memoranda, Confidential Offering Memoranda and other governing documents applicable to each Fund (collectively referred to as the “Offering Documents”) provided to investors. The roles and responsibilities of Garda will be defined in the Investment Advisory Agreements between Garda and the Funds and in the sub-advisory agreement between Garda and Garda Switzerland.

Garda will assume management of certain Funds (the date of such assumption is referred to herein as the “Assumption Date”) from Black River Asset Management LLC (“Black River”), an SEC registered investment adviser, who performed the investment management services for the Funds prior to the Assumption Date. Black River is a wholly owned subsidiary of Cargill,

Incorporated ("Cargill"), a privately owned corporation that is an international marketer, processor and distributor of agricultural, food, financial and industrial products and services. As of the Assumption Date, approximately 40 former employees of Black River involved in the management of the Funds will become employees of Garda (including the Partners), and neither Black River nor Cargill will have any ownership interest in Garda although as part of the agreement regarding the assumption of management of certain Funds, Garda has agreed to make certain payments to Cargill over a long-term period. Cargill will, however, remain an investor in one of the Garda Funds previously managed by Black River, and has agreed to provide Garda certain information technology infrastructure services, use of physical office facilities and certain tax compliance resources as transitional support until May 31, 2016.

Persons reviewing this Brochure should not construe this as an offering of any Garda Fund. Any offer or solicitation of interests will be made pursuant to the delivery of the Offering Documents for the respective Funds, which should be read carefully prior to investing for a description of the merits and risks of such an investment.

Throughout this brochure, the Garda Funds (inclusive of the master/feeder, limited partnerships and single investor funds) are collectively referred to as "Funds" or "Clients." The individual investors in the Funds are referred to as "Investors." Garda Capital Partners LP and the Swiss advisory subsidiary, Garda Switzerland, collectively are referred to throughout this Brochure as "Garda," "we" or "us."

At the time of its initial ADV filing, Garda did not have any assets under management. However, Garda has registered with the SEC in reliance on Rule 203A-2(c) because it has a reasonable expectation to be eligible for SEC registration within 120 days from the date its registration becomes effective.

## ITEM 5. FEES AND COMPENSATION

With respect to all types of Clients, Garda receives a management fee based on a percentage of assets under management as well as incentive income, or performance allocation, based on net capital appreciation. The fees and expenses associated with an investment in the Funds vary, depending on the Fund, and are described in detail in each Fund's Offering Document. We may, in our discretion, manage Clients with substantially similar or the same investment strategy with higher or lower fees, different fee structures, and different expense payment arrangements.

Each Client is typically responsible, pursuant to the terms of its Offering Document, for their ongoing direct, administrative, operating and other operational and transactional expenses. These expenses may be incurred either directly by the Client or, in some instances, Garda will incur the expense and obtain reimbursement from the Client. Expenses generally paid by Clients, either directly or by reimbursement to Garda, include, but are not limited to:

- Organizational and initial offering expenses, government fees, jurisdictional filing fees, regulatory reporting expenses;
- Transactional costs, commissions, mark-ups, mark-downs, spreads, access fees, exchange fees, membership fees, clearing fees and fees and expenses assessed by custodians, counterparties, banks, futures commission merchants and other financial service providers (See Section 12 – Brokerage Practices);
- interest and other financing charges, as well as costs related to repurchase agreements;
- custody costs and fees,
- regulatory and self-regulatory fees and costs of filings
- legal fees and fees related to consulting, research and other financial services that support trading and/or investment decisions;
- Bank and wire transfer fees;
- Printing, mailing and communications fees;
- Taxes (if any);
- Third party fees and expenses incurred in connection with evaluating prospective investment opportunities;
- Third party legal, accounting, audit and tax preparation fees and expenses;
- Computer software and/or technology specific to the management or reporting obligations of the Client; and
- Data services (i.e., Bloomberg, Reuters etc.).

In addition, the Garda Funds employ the administrative services of Wells Fargo Global Fund Services LLC ("Wells Fargo"). Wells Fargo serves as the administrator to these Funds and provides certain accounting, middle and back office administrative and operational services, such as trade reconciliations, on their behalf. Each Fund pays Wells Fargo fees for its services at a rate which is generally comprised of basis point fees based on the Fund's investment capital (subject to a monthly minimum) as well as a series of agreed-upon fees for certain specific services.

Garda may also pursue strategies where the Client invests in securities of investment companies or other collective investment vehicles (i.e., open-end mutual funds, closed-end funds, ETFs, other private funds) that are not managed by Garda. In such cases, the Client will pay the fees charged by these vehicles which typically include management or other advisory fees, although Garda expects these fees to be not material. Garda does not discount its fees for investments in the vehicles that charge the Client advisory fees; and, in these instances, the Client will pay multiple layers of advisory fees for the assets invested.

The direct expenses incurred by each Fund vary depending on the nature of the operations and activities of the Fund and are described in detail in each Fund's respective Offering Document. Each Client pays Garda a management fee (the "Management Fee") calculated and payable monthly or quarterly in advance or in arrears, at an annual rate generally ranging from 1.0% to 2.0% of the Fund's net asset value. Garda deducts fees directly from the Client's assets each month based on the calculated net asset value ("NAV"). The Management Fee is generally calculated on the value of the Client's assets minus liabilities which include the incurred expenses noted above.

Additionally, Garda may receive performance based compensation (the "Performance Allocation") based on the specific terms of each Client's Offering Document. Please see Section 6 – Performance-Based Fees and Side by Side Management for details on the Performance Allocation.

In general, and in the cases where certain fees may be paid in advance for a period in which the Advisory Agreement with a Client has been terminated or, with respect to an Investor who redeems all or a portion of its investment in such Fund, the applicable portion of such fees paid relating to the portion of the period after such termination or redemption will be returned or credited to the Client, subject to the terms of their Advisory Agreement and/or Offering Document. However, mid-period redemptions or terminations are not typically permitted.

### *Valuation*

The fees and expenses allocated to Funds may be based on each Fund's proportionate share based on its NAV. Each Fund's NAV, as of any date of determination, is the value of its assets minus its liabilities as determined by us in accordance with the Fund's Offering Document and generally accepted accounting principles. Garda is responsible for determining the fair market value of each Fund's investment instruments and, in doing so, has considerable discretion in valuing certain privately-placed and less liquid investment instruments. Garda has adopted pricing methodologies for the valuation of the Funds' investment instruments as described in each Fund's Offering Document. We generally will face a conflict of interest involving valuation of such investment instruments because these values generally will affect our compensation.

### *Differential Business Terms and Access to Information*

We may, and we may cause the Funds to, enter into "side letters" which modify certain terms applicable to certain Investors' investments in the Fund — including, for example, information reporting, reduced fees and "most favored nations" protection. Additionally, we may respond to requests from Investors or otherwise agree to provide certain additional information to certain Investors.

### *Method of Fee Payment*

The specific manner in which fees and expenses including the Performance Allocation are charged by Garda is stated in each Client's respective Offering Document(s). Garda deducts fees and expenses directly from the Garda Funds and the Investors' capital accounts are reduced proportionately by the amount of such fees.



## **ITEM 6. PERFORMANCE-BASED FEES AND SIDE-BY-SIDE MANAGEMENT**

Garda generally receives performance-based fees from Clients consistent with the terms of the respective Offering Document. Typically, the fee is received as a Performance Fee from each Fund equal to a percentage of the positive difference between the NAV of each Investor's investment in the Fund and the "high water mark" attributable to such investment as of the Fund's fiscal year end (December 31) , and as of each date that an Investor withdraws capital or transfers an interest in the Fund. The specific terms governing the structure and calculation of the Performance Fee and high water mark, which may vary between Funds, are described in detail in the Offering Document applicable to each Fund.

The Performance Fee is calculated pursuant to the terms of each Client's Offering Document. Garda's compensation is based, in some respects, on our calculation of the NAV which may provide an incentive to engage in more speculative investment strategies in an effort to maximize a Client's gross profits and receive greater compensation. In addition, Garda's calculation of NAV may provide an incentive to overstate profits and/or understate losses. However, Garda believes its implemented Valuation Policy, external pricing services, review of valuation decisions by its internal Valuation Committee and the valuation services provided by each Fund's respective administrator mitigate these inherent risks disclosed. Such fee arrangements also may create an incentive to favor higher fee paying Clients over other Clients in the allocation of investment opportunities (see Item 12 - Allocation of Investment Opportunities). Garda has implemented policies and procedures it believes are reasonably designed to ensure that all Clients are treated fairly over time, and to prevent this conflict from influencing the allocation of investment opportunities among Clients.

## **ITEM 7. TYPES OF CLIENTS**

Garda provides investment advisory services to the Garda Funds based on the particular investment objectives and strategies described in the applicable Fund's Offering Document. Investors in the Garda Funds include corporations, pension plans, sovereign wealth plans, endowments and foundations, private wealth management firms, fund-of-funds and other business entities that meet eligibility, suitability and minimum investment requirements, Garda and knowledgeable Garda employees.

The shares or interests in the Garda Funds are not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, and the Garda Funds are not registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940. Accordingly, interests in the Garda Funds are offered and sold exclusively to sophisticated investors satisfying certain eligibility and suitability requirements either in private transactions within the United States or in offshore transactions with non-U.S. Investors. Additionally, each Garda Fund imposes a minimum investment requirement (waived in certain circumstances at the discretion of Garda) with no Fund having a minimum investment that is less than \$10,000,000. The applicable eligibility, suitability and minimum initial investment requirements are described in more detail in the Offering Document of each Garda Fund.

## **ITEM 8. METHODS OF ANALYSIS, INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISK OF LOSS**

### *Methods of Analysis*

Garda generally employs proprietary investment strategies based upon fundamental research as well as on quantitative analysis. Investment ideas and information are generated internally through various Garda sources of expertise and market information and externally through an extensive network of brokers and other industry professionals who may provide research or other information in support of our investment analysis. Depending on the strategy implemented, we may consider broader macro-economic and geo-political analysis of world markets and economies, including, but not limited to, general or specific economic indicators, inflation rates, trends in international trade, energy and commodity production and supply, foreign exchange trends, governments' political, fiscal and monetary policies, market liquidity measures, supply and demand measures of industries, sectors and products, assessment of the general market appetite for risk and investment in various financial instruments and products, and other measures we believe are relevant to identifying and assessing available investment opportunities.

### *Investment Strategies*

Garda implements investment strategies which seek absolute returns primarily through leveraged relative value and directional trading concentrated on liquid fixed-income instruments originating in a region that extends throughout the Eurozone (countries for which home currency is the Euro), the United States, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Switzerland, Canada, Japan, Australia and New Zealand. The strategies employed may pursue a variety of relative value, directional, macro, arbitrage, event based and other value-driven approaches which involve active trading, with many positions being held on a short-term basis, and rapid redeployment of capital.

The strategies implemented focus primarily on developed market sovereign debt and interest rate derivatives, including inflation products, but also trade a variety supranational, federal agency and semi- or quasi-government debt. Derivatives are used extensively to hedge and obtain leverage on underlying positions, initiate market access, take outright directional positions and/or arbitrage market anomalies. Derivatives traded include both exchange-traded and over-the-counter products, including futures, options, repurchase agreements, interest rate swaps, currency swaps, credit default swaps and total return swaps. Other types of securities and derivative may also be incorporated into Garda's strategies and there is

generally is no material limit within the Funds offering documents regarding the markets or instruments which may be traded.

The investment objectives, strategies and risks specific to each of the Funds managed by Garda are set out in the respective Fund's Offering Document provided to Investors. Unless otherwise restricted in the Offering Document, each of the Garda Funds generally has the flexibility to pursue a wide or unlimited range of strategies and investment instruments, including strategies and instruments not previously described or disclosed to investors and without restrictions on asset type, industry, geographic market, concentration, degree of leverage, or other portfolio characteristics. We generally are not required to, and do not intend to, notify Investors in advance of changes in our investment strategies or portfolio composition. Investors and potential Investors should understand that the investment objectives and strategies implemented by the Garda Funds are generally speculative, highly leveraged and involve a substantial degree of risk. There can be no assurance that any Garda Fund will achieve its objectives, and Investors could lose all or substantially all of their investment.

The following is a description of some of the characteristics and risks associated with the more significant strategies and investment instruments that we may implement or invest in on behalf of Clients generally. Not all of the strategies, investment instruments and associated risks are relevant to each Client, and the descriptions presented here are not inclusive of all risks and conflicts of interest that may be applicable to an investment in the strategies offered by Garda. Investors and prospective Investors should refer to the relevant Offering Document for a more complete discussion of applicable risks and conflicts specific to each Fund.

## ***Significant Risks - Methods of Analysis***

### *Technical Analysis*

We utilize the analysis of historical and current market data, or technical analysis, in our investment decisions. This type of analysis is subject to the risk that unexpected fundamental factors or other factors may dominate the market during certain periods. Furthermore, a frequent premise of technical analysis is that past market conditions are indicative of future market prices. The influx of different market participants, structural changes in the markets, the introduction of new financial products and other developments could materially and adversely affect the profitability of investments made based upon technical analysis.

### *Fundamental Analysis*

Fundamental analysis, which is based on the premise that market mispricing exists because market prices do not incorporate all knowable economic and other relevant data, is subject to the risk of inaccurate or incomplete market information, as well as the difficulty of predicting future prices based upon analysis of all known information. Investments made based upon fundamental analysis are subject to significant losses when market sentiment leads to investment instruments' market prices being materially different from the expected prices indicated by fundamental analysis or when technical factors, such as price momentum encouraged by trend following, dominates the market.

### *Model Risk*

Certain of the strategies we employ are highly dependent on quantitatively based pricing theories and risk and valuation models which we use to evaluate investment opportunities. These models generally seek to forecast future price changes and portfolio performance based upon a limited number of factors and inputs. The forecasts generated by these models may differ substantially from actual future price realizations, potentially resulting in substantial losses. There can be no assurance that the models we use will be effective and since the models we use may depend upon inputs from various sources, inaccuracies in such inputs or the calculations we apply may result in unexpected losses.

### *Risk Management*

We actively take risk on behalf of our Clients, directly exposing our Clients to the risk of loss under a wide variety of market conditions. We have established risk management processes to identify, measure and monitor risks associated with the investment activities undertaken

on behalf of our Clients. The risk management processes are intended to assist us in our investment decision making process and to identify risk exposures that we may choose to hedge or otherwise mitigate. However, the risk management processes may fail to identify or anticipate a wide variety of risks that may adversely affect our Clients, potentially exposing Clients to material, unanticipated losses.

#### *Dependence on Garda*

Garda's Clients are dependent on the ability of Garda to manage their trading and investment programs. Garda, in turn, is a newly formed investment adviser that has not previously operated separate from the Black River and Cargill infrastructures and is dependent on the skill, judgment and expertise of a relatively small number of key investment and business management personnel which are integral to successfully implementing Client strategies. Although Garda has retained substantial personnel resources, the investment and business management professionals that specialize in certain of the strategies implemented by Garda may be strictly limited in number, and the highly specialized nature of the markets in which Garda trades may make these professionals particularly difficult to replace if they were to leave. Losing the services of any such key investment or business management personnel could impair the ability of Garda to manage one or more strategies in a manner consistent with the Client's investment objectives, and the consequence to the Client could be material and adverse, potentially including the premature termination of the Client's account.

## ***Significant Risks - Strategies***

### *Portfolio Turnover*

Many of the strategies implemented by Garda utilize frequent trading and exhibit high portfolio turnover. Profit opportunities from investments on the basis of short-term market considerations, mispricings or other criteria can be short-lived. The turnover rate of our Clients' positions may be significant, potentially involving substantial brokerage commissions and fees as well as clearing costs.

### *Portfolio Diversification*

Although diversification is an integral part of Garda's overall portfolio risk management process, the Garda Funds are generally not restricted as to the percentage of any Fund's assets that may be invested in any particular country, asset class, industry, issuer, instrument, market, sector or strategy. For certain Clients and strategies where such an approach is consistent with the Client's investment objectives, we may take highly concentrated positions in an attempt to maximize the Client's returns. Consequently, a loss in any such concentrated position could ultimately result in significant losses to the Client and proportionately higher losses than if such Client's capital had been spread over a wide number of positions.

### *Hedging*

In executing many of its strategies, Garda may enter into hedging transactions with the intention of reducing or controlling risk but does not, in general, attempt to hedge all market or other risks inherent in the strategies implemented by the Funds. Garda is not obligated to utilize hedging strategies, and Garda may choose not to hedge certain risks or may determine that hedging is economically unattractive — either in respect of particular positions or with respect to a Fund's overall portfolio. It is possible that the hedging strategies employed may not be effective in controlling risk, and may, due to unexpected change in correlation between the hedging instrument and the position being hedged, increase rather than reduce both risk and losses.

### *Leverage*

Certain Garda Funds will typically make extensive use of leverage, regularly borrowing from brokers, banks and other lenders to finance investments and enhance returns. Through the

use of leverage, the Funds may acquire substantially more assets than the Fund has equity and the Funds are typically not limited in the amount of leverage they can use. The use of leverage may significantly increase both the strategy's market exposure and associated risks. In addition to the risk that the interest expense and other costs incurred in connection with this borrowing may not be recovered by appreciation in the investments purchased, Garda strategies which depend on borrowing frequently have "on-demand" repayment risk. As a general matter, the leverage counterparties that provide financing to the Garda Funds can apply essentially discretionary margin, haircut, financing, security and collateral valuation policies. Changes by the leverage counterparties in such policies, or the imposition of other credit limitations or restrictions, whether due to market circumstances or governmental, regulatory or judicial action, breaches of any financing agreement terms and covenants due to poor performance or otherwise, may result in increased margin calls, loss of financing, forced liquidation of positions at disadvantageous prices, termination of swaps, repurchase agreements and other leveraging arrangements, as well as cross-defaults to agreements with other leverage providers. The financing available from leverage counterparties is particularly likely to be restricted or withdrawn in disrupted markets. Any such adverse effects may be exacerbated in the event that such limitations or restrictions are imposed suddenly and/or by multiple market participants at or about the same time. The imposition of such limitations or restrictions could compel Garda to liquidate all or a portion of the Client's portfolio at disadvantageous prices. In light of these considerations, there can be no assurances that strategies dependent on leverage will be able to maintain adequate financing arrangements under all market conditions, and the lack of adequate financing could result in significant losses, or the inability to pursue the investment strategies of the Funds.

#### *Exchange Rate Risk*

The Funds managed by Garda are generally denominated in, and value assets in, U.S. dollars, and Investors whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar will have material exchange-rate risk with respect to their investment in the Fund.

Many of the strategies pursued on behalf of the Funds trade and invest in securities and instruments denominated in non-U.S. currencies. Such investments are subject to the risk that the value of a particular currency will change in relation to the U.S. dollar. Among the factors that may affect currency values are direct government intervention (often intended specifically to change currency values), trade balances, the level of short-term interest rates, differences in the relative values of similar assets in different currencies, long-term



opportunities for investment and capital appreciation and political developments. The Funds may, from time to time, invest and trade in a manner resulting in exposure to selected currencies for speculative purposes and may also incur potentially significant transaction costs (as well as potential losses) resulting from currency hedging transactions.

#### *Relative Value Strategies*

The success of our relative value strategies depends on market values converging towards the theoretical values determined by the valuation models we utilize and our ability to express these relative mispricings through interrelated investment instruments. Our relative value strategies are subject to the risks of disruptions in historical price relationships, the restricted availability of credit and the obsolescence or inaccuracy of valuation models, among other factors. Even if correctly identified, relative value positions may not converge within the anticipated time frame, and, in the event of market disruptions, significant losses may be incurred which may force Clients to close out positions.

#### *Directional Strategies*

Directional investing is subject to all the risks inherent in incorrectly predicting future price movements. Predicting future prices is inherently uncertain and the losses incurred, if the market moves against a position, may not be hedged. Price movements may be influenced by unanticipated factors, or our analysis of known factors may prove inaccurate, in either case potentially leading to substantial losses.

#### *Fixed Income Strategies*

Strategies incorporating fixed income securities and their derivatives are subject to interest rate risk due to changes in interest rates, as well as changes to the credit risk premium applicable to the various categories of fixed income and other debt securities. Garda may attempt to reduce the exposure of a Fund's portfolio to interest rate and credit risk premium changes through hedging transactions that utilize interest rate and credit related securities and derivatives. There can, however, be no assurance or guarantee that Garda will be successful in mitigating the impact of interest rate or credit risk premium changes on a given Fund's portfolio.

### *Event Based Strategies*

Strategies based on the expectation that certain events will or will not take place, such as the consummation of an announced or otherwise anticipated market transaction or governmental action, depend upon Garda's ability to make predictions about (i) the likelihood that an event will or will not occur and (ii) the impact such event will have on the value of related investments. The consummation of such transactions can be prevented or delayed by a variety of factors, such as the intervention of a governmental or regulatory agency, market conditions resulting in material changes in market prices or the inability to obtain adequate support from the event constituents. If the anticipated event fails to occur or it does not have the effect foreseen, losses can result, and there can be no assurance or guarantee that Garda will be successful in anticipating such events.

## ***Significant Risks - Investment Instrument Risks***

### *Debt Securities Generally*

Debt securities, including sovereign debt securities, may be subject to price volatility due to various factors including changes in interest rates, market perception of the creditworthiness of the issuer and general market liquidity. In addition to the sensitivity of debt securities to overall interest rate movements, debt securities involve a fundamental credit risk based on the issuer's ability to make principal and interest payments on the debt it issues.

### *Sovereign Debt*

The Garda Funds invest in debt securities issued by G-10 and other Western and Asian countries, including debt obligations issued or guaranteed by national, state or provincial governments, political subdivisions or quasi-governmental or supranational entities. Sovereign governments often intervene in the markets for their debt for a variety of economic and/or political reasons which may be unanticipated by Garda and occur suddenly.

Investment in debt securities issued by countries other than members of the G-10 may involve a higher degree of risk and the issuing governmental entities may be more likely to default on or restructure their obligations. Certain sovereign debt may have non-investment grade ratings or be in distress or even default, potentially resulting in greater market volatility.

### *Currencies*

Clients may be subject to two types of exchange rate risk: the risk of speculative currency trading and the exchange rate risk inherent in investing in global investment instruments denominated in different currencies. Currency trading involves positioning in anticipation of movements in exchange rates among countries and we may trade currencies for certain Clients on a speculative basis in both directional and relative value strategies. Exchange rates can change dramatically over short periods of time, particularly during times of political or economic unrest or as a result of actions taken by central banks, which may be intended directly to affect prevailing exchange rates.

Moreover, many of the investment instruments in which our Clients invest are denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar, and certain U.S. dollar denominated investment instruments are convertible into investment instruments denominated in other currencies.

Clients holding these and other positions are subject to the risk that exchange rate movements will cause losses on positions which might otherwise have been profitable.

### *Derivative Instruments*

We make extensive use of various derivative instruments including, without limitation, options, swaps, credit default swaps, forward contracts, futures contracts and repurchase agreements, for hedging, leverage and speculative purposes. These instruments typically involve highly leveraged exposure to underlying referenced assets from which such instruments derive their performance, at least in part. The use of derivatives involves a variety of material risks, including the possibility of counterparty non-performance as well as deviations between the actual and the theoretical value of such derivatives. Changes in the volatility of the price of an underlying security or index may have a material effect on the theoretical value of a derivative instrument. Derivatives may be subject to a wide variety of contractual terms including a range of “early termination events” permitting the counterparty to liquidate the position prematurely. Although Dodd Frank requires certain derivatives to be traded on exchanges, currently many of the derivatives which Garda Funds may trade are principal-to-principal or “over-the-counter” contracts between the Fund and third parties entered into privately, rather than on an exchange. As a result, the Client will not be afforded the regulatory and financial protections of an exchange or its clearinghouse (or of the government regulator that oversees such exchange and clearinghouse).

Derivatives may be extremely illiquid, and, when not exchange traded, derivative positions may be able to be offset only by transacting with the counterparty to the derivative. In such privately negotiated transactions, the risk of the negotiated price deviating materially from fair value is substantial, particularly when there is no active market available from which to derive benchmark prices. Further, Commodities or other non-securities related derivatives have the same risks associated with them as other derivative financial instruments, including a high degree of leverage, deviations between actual and theoretical value of the reference commodity and the derivative and imperfections in dealer pricing.

### *Options*

We may buy or sell (write) both call options and put options on either a covered or an uncovered basis. The value of options is materially affected by market volatility. If we were to incorrectly forecast near-term market volatility, our Clients may incur substantial losses on their options trading. The seller of an uncovered call option bears the risk of an increase in

the market price of the underlying security or reference instrument above the exercise price, which risk is theoretically unlimited.

### *Futures*

We trade futures in certain of our strategies. Futures are often inherently highly leveraged, and can become illiquid due to exchange-imposed price fluctuation limits. Futures contracts can involve significant risks, including price volatility and potentially unlimited losses if prices move against a position. The successful trading of futures for speculative purposes requires correctly predicting movements in the direction of the relevant market and, to the extent the transaction is entered into for hedging purposes, determining the correlation between the position being hedged and the price movements of the futures contract.

### *Credit Derivatives*

Certain Garda strategies purchase and sell credit derivatives, potentially with large levels of exposure. Credit derivatives trading is subject not only to the credit risk of the issuer of the underlying obligations to which such derivatives are referenced, but also to the credit risk of the counterparty to the credit derivative transaction itself. In certain cases, the credit derivatives market is significantly less liquid than the market in the underlying debt obligations, particularly if the derivative is not exchange traded and individually negotiated.

## ***Other Market Risks***

### *General Market Risks*

Investors/potential Investors should understand that any investment in Garda's Funds could be materially adversely affected by changes or instability in market conditions. The types of market conditions in which the Funds may incur losses or experience unexpected performance volatility cannot be predicted, and the Funds may materially underperform other funds with similar investment objectives. The general risks of market investing include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The Funds and strategies may not maintain significant diversification, and even if significantly diversified may not provide meaningful risk control;
- The strategies implemented by Garda trade with a high degree of leverage to achieve their objectives, thereby increasing risk and magnifying the effect of market volatility;
- Traded instruments may be subject to excessive market volatility and such market volatility should be expected to recur;
- The Funds could incur major losses during disrupted markets and other extraordinary events that materially distort historical pricing relationships or disrupt market liquidity;
- Fund strategies that are reliant on volatility to meet their objectives may incur trendless or stagnant markets where prospects for profitability are diminished;
- The profit potential of Funds may be materially diminished during market cycles in which there is a general decline in economic activity and/or active government intervention;
- Declines in market liquidity and/or leverage may disrupt markets and create forced sellers in order to pay back leverage or meet liquidity obligations;
- Suspensions in trading may limit liquidity in specific instruments or entire strategies potentially exposing Clients to market volatility and potential losses;
- Certain strategies implemented by Garda are traded with limited market or instrument diversification, potentially increasing both performance volatility and risk, perhaps without a commensurate increase in returns; and

- The performance of certain strategies implemented by Garda Funds may be highly volatile, and, from time to time, different strategies implemented within a fund or account may have positively correlated performance—increasing overall risk and performance volatility.

#### *Market Liquidity*

Market liquidity often falls in periods of market turmoil, dramatically increasing transaction costs for investors seeking to acquire or liquidate positions. If we were to seek to liquidate the assets in a period of poor liquidity, our Clients could experience substantial losses. At the extreme, numerous alternative investment programs have incurred significant or total losses when attempting to liquidate positions during periods of extreme illiquidity, often when seeking to raise cash to meet margin calls issued by counterparties.

#### *Interest Rate Risks*

Certain of Garda's strategies trade and invest extensively in investment instruments which are sensitive to interest rate fluctuations and unexpected fluctuations in interest rates could cause the corresponding pricing of long and short positions to move in directions which were not initially anticipated. In addition, interest rate increases generally will increase the interest carrying costs of borrowed investment instruments as well as the cost of the leverage. To the extent that interest rate assumptions underlie the thesis of a particular position, fluctuations in interest rates could invalidate those underlying assumptions and expose our Clients to losses.

#### *Trading in Foreign Markets Generally*

*Garda* trades in markets outside the United States where the trading in such markets is not regulated by any U.S. government agency and protections provided by U.S. regulations do not apply. Many non-U.S. securities markets are not as developed or efficient as those in the United States and may be more volatile than the U.S. markets. There may be generally less government supervision and regulation of non-U.S. exchanges, brokers and listed companies than in the United States. Further, trading volumes in non-U.S. markets are usually lower than in U.S. markets, resulting in reduced liquidity and potentially rapid and erratic price fluctuations. Commissions for trades on non-U.S. securities exchanges are generally higher than negotiated commissions on U.S. exchanges and custody expenses are

generally higher as well. Settlement practices for transactions in non-U.S. markets may involve delays beyond periods customary in the United States, possibly requiring a Fund to borrow funds or securities to satisfy its obligations arising out of other transactions. In addition, there could be more “failed settlements,” which can result in losses to Funds trading in such markets.

Some exchanges in less developed markets, in contrast to U.S. or other developed market exchanges, are “principals’ markets” in which performance with respect to a contract is the responsibility only of the individual member with whom the Fund has entered into the contract and not of the exchange or its clearinghouse, if any. In such cases, Garda Funds will be subject to the risk of the inability of or refusal by its counterparties to perform with respect to their contracts with the Fund. Additionally, trading securities in less developed markets, involves the additional risks of expropriation, burdensome or confiscatory taxation, moratoriums, exchange or investment controls and political or diplomatic market disruptions, each of which might materially adversely affect the Fund’s trading activities.

#### *Leverage & Financing Risks*

Leverage achieved by a Client through margin borrowings, loans, derivatives, repurchase agreements and other instruments requires the Client to post collateral with brokers and other counterparties that provide financing to the Client. Brokers and other counterparties have broad discretionary authority over valuation of the Client’s assets they hold, and the amount of collateral required. A broker or other counterparty may have the right to (i) reduce the valuation of the Client’s assets they hold, including collateral posted by the Client; (ii) require the Client to post additional collateral; and/or (iii) reduce unilaterally the credit extended to the Client for a number of reasons, including reasons that have no bearing on the creditworthiness of the Client. Any such action by a broker or other counterparty could lead to a margin call on the Client or result in the Client having to sell assets at a time when the Client would not otherwise choose to do so. If the Client does not meet a margin call in accordance with the relevant financing agreement, the broker or other counterparty may declare the Client in default and liquidate the Client’s assets held by the broker or other counterparty.

The investment strategies we employ depend heavily on the availability of credit in order to permit the financing of Client portfolios. The credit available to the Clients could be dramatically reduced for a significant length of time due to a variety of circumstances. A Client’s inability to access secured and/or unsecured financing facilities and markets could



significantly impact its performance. Any or all of these situations could arise due to circumstances that we may be unable to control.

#### *Counterparty and Custody Risk*

Under certain circumstances, there may be material risks associated with enforcing a Fund's rights to its assets in the case of an insolvency of a custodian, prime broker or other parties to which assets were pledged as collateral. Significant losses that were incurred by many investors in 2008 in relation to the bankruptcy and/or administration of Lehman Brothers Holdings and its affiliates illustrate the risks incurred in both derivatives trading and custody/brokerage arrangements. There is no certainty that, in the event of a failure of a broker-dealer that has custody of a Fund's assets, the Fund would not incur losses due to its assets being unavailable for a period of time, or that ultimately it would fully recover its assets, or both.

#### *Short Selling Restrictions*

Short-selling has from time to time been the subject of significant regulatory scrutiny globally as well as substantive regulation. Regulatory initiatives to increase the regulation of the financial markets are ongoing as a result of the market disruptions which began in mid-2008, and it is not possible to predict whether short-selling may be restricted, perhaps permanently, in a manner materially adverse to certain of the strategies we use.

#### *Changes to the Regulatory Environment*

Many of the investments, investment strategies and markets utilized by Garda are subject to numerous laws, rules and regulations originating from multiple jurisdictions. Substantive changes to, or interpretations of, such laws, rules and regulations could have a material adverse effect on Garda's ability to execute its investment strategies.

## **ITEM 9. DISCIPLINARY INFORMATION**

Garda and its employees have not been involved in any legal or disciplinary events in the past 10 years that would be material to an investor's or a prospective investor's evaluation of our advisory business, personnel or the integrity of our management.

## ITEM 10. OTHER FINANCIAL INDUSTRY ACTIVITIES AND AFFILIATIONS

Garda Capital Partners LP and its wholly-owned subsidiary in Geneva Switzerland (Garda Switzerland) serve as the investment adviser to the Funds. Since Garda Switzerland is wholly-owned and provides investment advisory services only to Garda in connection with the management of Funds, Garda does not believe that this relationship creates a material conflict of interest for the Funds. Garda Switzerland is subject to the regulatory provisions of the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority ("FINMA").

In conjunction with its role as the investment adviser to the Garda Funds, Garda is registered with the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") as a Commodity Pool Operator ("CPO") and Commodity Trading Adviser ("CTA") and is a member of the National Futures Association ("NFA"). Registration with the CFTC and membership with the NFA do not imply any level of skill or training.

### *Registered Broker-Dealers*

None of Garda or its Partners, managers or other employees is registered as a broker-dealer or a registered representative of a broker-dealer. In addition, Garda, its Partners, and its employees are not affiliated with any broker-dealer.

### *Selection or Recommendation of Other Advisers*

Garda does not recommend or select other investment advisers for the Funds and does not have other business relationships with other advisers that create a material conflict of interest. However, Garda's management of the Funds may be directed in certain countries and markets by subsidiaries of Garda located outside of the United States rather than Garda itself. The Funds do not incur any additional management fees or increased carried interest as a result of its subsidiaries' participation in the management of the Funds.

## **ITEM 11. CODE OF ETHICS, PARTICPATION OR INTEREST IN CLIENT TRANSACTIONS AND PERSONAL TRADING**

Garda has adopted a written code of ethics (the “Code”) which establishes a standard of conduct and compliance with federal securities laws required of all Garda partners, officers and employees (collectively, “employees”). The Code contains policies and procedures intended to avoid actual or potential conflicts of interest related to personal trading and other employee activities and incorporates throughout the general fiduciary principle that the interest of Clients must always be placed ahead of employee’s personal interests or those of Garda or its affiliated entities. Provisions of the Code also prohibit certain actions, including, among other matters, forbidding any employee of Garda from trading, either personally or on behalf of Clients or others, on material non-public information.

All personal investment activities by employees, certain family members and other accounts in which employees have a financial interest must be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the personal trading policies contained in the Code. Personal trading investment activities may involve the purchase or sale of securities that are similar or the same as securities purchased or sold for Clients, but are subject to certain guidelines and restrictions intended to minimize potential conflicts with Client interests. These restrictions include a general prohibition on any personal transaction that would disadvantage, or appear to disadvantage a Client. This includes, among other restrictions, a specific prohibition on personal transactions in anticipation of a Client’s order as well as limitations on employee transactions in Initial Public Offering and Limited Offering securities.

Garda generally requires written pre-clearance for securities transactions, and Garda may not grant preclearance, particularly if the transaction appears to pose a conflict of interest or otherwise appears improper.

As a means to monitor compliance with our policies, the Code requires employees to to: (i) report personal securities transactions on at least a quarterly basis; and (ii) provide Garda with a detailed summary of certain holdings, both initially upon commencement of employment and at least annually thereafter, to include all portfolios, accounts or securities over which such employees have control or beneficial interest. Garda’s reporting requirements and restrictions on personal securities trading apply to all employees, as well as to each employee’s immediate family members living in the same household and to other parties to whom the employee provides material financial support.

In addition to the policies and procedures contained within the Code, Garda maintains the following policies and procedures relating to our employees' conduct: Gifts and Entertainment, Political Contributions and Outside Business Activities. The provisions of these additional policies have been implemented in a manner consistent with the principles contained in the Code and are intended to further limit potential conflicts of interests.

#### *Insider Trading*

Garda employees may acquire or come into possession of material, non-public confidential information in the course of our business activities or otherwise. Garda prohibits the buying or selling of securities on the basis of, or while in possession of, material non-public information and considers the knowledge of such information by any Garda employee to be held by Garda generally. Transactions in securities whose issuers are the subject of material non-public information that is in our possession are thus prohibited for all Garda employees, whether the transactions are on behalf of Garda, our Clients or the employee's personal trading accounts. As a result, Garda and our employees may not be able to initiate a transaction for a Client that may otherwise have been initiated, and, further, may be required to maintain a position that otherwise might have been sold, or refrain from acquiring a position that might otherwise have been acquired.

#### *Related Party Security Transactions*

Garda Clients may, from time to time, purchase and/or sell investment securities with other Clients or Garda related parties, unless such transactions are otherwise restricted by the provisions of the Client's Offering Document or other governing agreements. Certain of these transactions may be principal trades initiated only when Garda has determined, in good faith, the transaction is beneficial to the Client, does not favor the interests of Garda or its affiliates over the Client's interests and is otherwise fair and equitable. Any principal transactions will be effected only in accordance with and as permitted by applicable law and generally require the prior consent of Investors or shareholders. Whenever possible, Garda will transact a principal trade at, or with reference to, the market price of the securities involved, and may also effect the transaction through a broker-dealer, bank or other third-party market participant. Notwithstanding the foregoing, all principal trades involve conflicts of interest, particularly the conflict between acting in our own best interests and those of the Client.

Unless otherwise restricted by provisions of the applicable offering documents, Cross trades may also occur between Garda Clients where no participating Client is deemed to be a Garda

proprietary account for principal trade purposes. All principal and cross trades between Clients are subject to Garda's written policies and procedures that govern transactions between Clients and which are intended to ensure that the transaction is in each participating Client's best interest and does not favor one Client over another. These policies, in addition to containing other provisions, require the consideration and approval of any Client to Client transaction by Garda's Chief Operating Officer, Chief Compliance Officer and Financial Controller. Garda and its affiliates will not receive commissions or other compensation for effecting cross trades between Clients.

Clients, prospective Clients, as well as Investors or prospective Investors in the Garda Funds may obtain a copy of the Code by contacting us at the address or telephone number listed on the first page of this document.

## ITEM 12. BROKERAGE PRACTICES

### *Broker Selection*

Garda generally has complete discretion to determine, subject to each Fund's objectives, strategies and contract terms, the assets to be purchased and sold and in what amounts, the counterparties used, and the commission rates and other costs to be paid for such transactions. Fund Investors should anticipate that transactions executed at our discretion will generate a substantial amount of brokerage commissions and other costs, all of which will be borne by the Client and not by Garda.

Garda selects broker-dealers, banks and other financial intermediaries ("counterparties" or "brokers") that we believe will provide execution in a manner such that the Client's total cost or proceeds in each transaction is most favorable under the circumstances. In seeking the best available execution for our Clients, we generally consider a variety of factors that may vary significantly from one transaction to the next based on the nature of the exposure or opportunity sought, type of asset traded and the geographic location of the relevant markets. The factors considered may be both quantitative and qualitative, and the brokers or counterparties that Garda determines to be most likely to provide the most favorable outcome for the Client may not have the lowest available commission costs.

Garda has adopted best execution policies and procedures (the "Best Execution Policy") which set out what Garda considers to be relevant factors in selecting counterparties likely to achieve the most favorable outcome for the Client. Under the Best Execution Policy, Garda may consider a wide variety of factors including, but not limited to:

- Execution price;
- Costs, including commission;
- The reputation and integrity of the counterparty, including financial strength and stability;
- Likelihood of execution;
- Speed of execution;
- Ability to execute desired volume (size);
- Ability to execute with minimum impact on the market;
- Ability to make a market in a transaction;

- Ability to commit its own capital to facilitate trades;
- Ability and willingness to handle complex transactions;
- Ability to operate in “limited access” markets;
- Other execution capabilities, including confidentiality; and
- The full range and quality of services offered by the counterparty;
  - Quality of research provided;
  - Availability/access to analysts;
  - Access to, or participation in, allocations from limited offerings;
  - Other services such as funding arrangements that benefit Garda’s Clients;
  - The market knowledge of the counterparty as well as knowledge of the specific asset traded;
  - Broad market coverage resulting in information flow regarding bids and offers, news and market activity; and
  - Other considerations relevant to the transaction.

Please note that the list above is representative and should not be considered inclusive of all relevant factors that may be considered in determining the counterparty most likely to provide the most favorable outcome under the circumstances of the transaction.

Additionally, Garda Funds may trade options, futures and other derivative instruments which can have substantial transaction costs with a limited choice of counterparties.

#### *Research and Other Soft Dollars Benefits*

Garda receives certain products and services from counterparties in addition to execution services which constitute “brokerage and research services” within the meaning of Section 28(e) of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Such services may include proprietary and third party research, general market commentary, economic information, industry and company commentary, general reports, quotations and other market data, discussions with research analysts and meetings with representatives of issuers.

While Garda does not enter into “soft dollar” arrangements with counterparties that require specific transaction or commission levels, Garda Clients may still bear the costs of these



brokerage and research services directly and/or through “soft dollar” commissions which fall under the safe harbor for such services established by Section 28(e). Garda may have an incentive to select a counterparty based on Garda’s interest in receiving brokerage and research services, rather than on our Clients’ interest in receiving the lowest cost commission rate. The selection of counterparties based on any consideration other than the applicable commission rates, including the availability of brokerage and research services, may result in higher transaction costs than would otherwise be obtainable. Garda benefits from these arrangements, because it does not have to produce or pay for the research, products or services. Brokerage and research services obtained by the use of commissions arising from a Client’s transactions may be used by Garda in its other investment activities or on behalf of other Clients, and a Client may not directly or indirectly benefit from the brokerage and research services received in consideration of the “soft dollars” generated by the Client’s transactions.

#### *Directed Brokerage*

Garda has discretionary authority to select the brokers or dealers in connection with transactions of the Garda Funds, and Fund investors are not permitted to direct Garda to use a particular broker or dealer to execute portfolio transactions on behalf of the Funds.

#### *Brokerage for Investor Referrals*

Garda does not consider, in selecting or recommending counterparties to its clients, whether it or a related person receives client referrals from a counterparty or third party.

#### *Trade Aggregation*

Garda’s policies and procedures are implemented with the intent to treat all Clients fairly and equitably over time, although not necessarily identically. When investment decisions in a particular instrument are made contemporaneously on behalf of multiple Garda Clients, executing the decisions as a bunched order has the effect of ensuring that no Client receives preferential trade execution. When investment mandates are shared by like investment strategies across Clients, Garda will generally aggregate orders for bunched execution of multiple Client orders so as to be able to eliminate the potential for price discrepancies between Clients. Clients participating in an aggregated order generally will receive the average price of all transactions executed pursuant to the aggregated order. Aggregated orders and the associated transaction costs are generally allocated pro rata among all

participating Clients in a manner consistent with each Client's level of participation in the order.

Garda generally does not aggregate orders when the investment decisions in a particular instrument are not made contemporaneously. Such instances may typically occur in situations where a given security or other investment asset is incidentally traded on behalf of multiple Clients under discrete investment mandates or strategies.

#### *Allocation of Investment Opportunities*

In the allocation of investment and trading opportunities among Clients, Garda determines, for each Client, using our judgment in good faith, as to whether an opportunity is appropriate and in what quantity. We may consider a number of factors in making this determination, including, among others, a Client's overall investment strategy, existing portfolio composition, the size or amount of the available opportunity, the risks involved and other factors relevant to the Client and investment opportunity. If Garda determines that an investment opportunity is appropriate for more than one Client, we will determine the allocation of such opportunity prior to the execution of the order and in a manner that we determine to be fair and equitable over time considering all allocations among such Clients as a whole. In some instances, we may determine that it is in a Client's best interest not to participate in an investment opportunity, and we are not required to provide every opportunity to every Client.

Garda has implemented policies and procedures specific to the allocation of investments purchased or redeemed for the Client that are intended to ensure that each Client, over time, is treated fairly and equitably with respect to investment opportunities. Garda typically considers a number of factors in determining the allocation of investment opportunities to multiple Clients that may include, but are not limited to the following considerations:

- Minimum transaction size or quantity multiples (odd lots) determined by the nature of the security;
- Changes in underlying capital in participating Clients;
- Existing exposure to the securities, issuer or market of the proposed transaction;
- The different liquidity positions and requirements of the participating Clients;
- Tax considerations;
- Regulatory considerations (e.g., QIB status);

- The relative capitalization and cash availability of the participating Clients;
- The relative risk and VAR profiles of the participating Clients;
- Strategy alignment;
- Portfolio concentration considerations;
- Formal diversification requirements imposed by the respective Client's constituent documents;
- Borrowing base considerations;
- Different historical and anticipated subscription and redemption patterns;
- Minimum investment criteria;
- Fund ramp up and ramp down periods;
- Investment time horizon;
- Availability of ISDA relationship(s) with a trading counterparty; and
- Availability of prime brokerage or other specialized relationships with a counterparty.

Absent other considerations, pro-rata allocations based on measurable factors such as each Client's NAV or relative portfolio exposure capacity are the most common method of allocation utilized by Garda and generally viewed as inherently fair.

### **ITEM 13. REVIEW OF ACCOUNTS**

For each of Garda's investment strategies, one or more senior members of the portfolio management team is primarily responsible for reviewing Client accounts and may do so individually or as a group depending upon market conditions or Client needs. The Senior Portfolio Manager and Portfolio Manager(s) collectively perform the intraday, daily, weekly or monthly reviews of positions, risks and opportunities as they deem appropriate and as market conditions warrant. Such reviews will consider portfolio composition in light of current and anticipated market conditions, including assessments of portfolio performance, exposures and risks as well as potential investment opportunities that are consistent with the Client's investment objectives. Executive officers of Garda, including Garda's Chief Investment Officer, conduct additional periodic reviews of investment strategies and portfolio exposures for each Client account with the frequency of such reviews determined by the nature of the strategy being reviewed and market conditions.

In addition to the portfolio management teams responsible for effecting investment strategies on behalf of Client accounts, Garda has dedicated risk management staff responsible for risk management systems, measurements and controls as well as conducting daily risk and exposure reviews of Client accounts. The reviews performed consider systemic, portfolio level and position-specific risks and include exception testing against internally established risk thresholds and portfolio limits. Garda utilizes both proprietary and commercially-licensed computer systems and information services to assist in monitoring, analyzing and managing the risks inherent in the Funds' investments. Garda may modify any of its risk management techniques or applicable risk thresholds or limits at any time.

In addition to the reviews undertaken by Garda, each Garda Fund has an independent administrator which reviews security valuations on a monthly basis and reconciles positions and cash details directly with Fund custodians on a daily basis. Garda has also engaged an independent public accounting firm to conduct annual audits of the Funds and, as part of the annual audit process, the accounting firm independently verifies security prices and positions in the Funds, and confirms the Funds' ownership of investment assets.

The Garda Funds typically provide investors with weekly fund performance estimates, unaudited monthly performance reports, audited annual fund financial statements, and, for U.S. Funds, tax information related to their investments in the Fund for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Although the Funds provide information that may be used by Investors for tax purposes, Garda does not provide legal or tax advice. Investors should consult their legal and tax advisors before making any investment decisions.

#### **ITEM 14. CLIENT REFERRALS AND OTHER COMPENSATION**

Garda does not use outside solicitors for Client referrals, and we are not a party to any solicitation agreement whereby Garda or any Garda Client directly or indirectly compensates a third-party for the referral of potential investors. Garda may choose to use outside solicitors for Client referrals and/or enter into solicitation agreements in the future without notice or consent of our Clients. If any Investor will be directly subject to placement and/or referral fees to persons who introduce them to Garda, any such fees will be disclosed to the Investor prior to its making an investment.

Garda may, from time to time, participate in conferences, programs and other capital introduction services sponsored by brokerage firms or banks that provide custodial, financing or execution services to Garda Clients. These conferences and capital introduction programs are generally incidental to other brokerage related services and may be a means by which Garda can be introduced to qualified institutions that are potential Investors in the Garda Funds. While these types of introductory services provided by a brokerage firm or bank may influence us in evaluating whether to use the brokerage firm or bank in connection with transaction execution, financing, custody or other activities of the Funds, neither Garda nor the Garda Funds compensates brokerage firms directly or through any "soft dollar" execution arrangements for introduction services.

## **ITEM 15. CUSTODY**

Garda is deemed to have custody of the cash and investment securities held by the Garda Funds because of our ability to debit advisory fees from the Funds' custodial accounts. Garda does not act as a qualified custodian for its clients and obtains approval from the Funds' administrator for payment of the advisory fees.

Garda Funds' cash and investment securities are held with qualified custodians, and each Fund receives at least quarterly statements from the qualified custodians. Fund Investors do not receive account statements from the Funds' custodians; rather, the Funds are subject to an annual audit conducted by an independent public accounting firm. The audited financial statements are distributed to each Fund Investor within the applicable required timeframe of each respective Fund's fiscal year end, which in no instance will be more than 120 days. Fund Investors also receive account statements from the relevant Fund's administrator on either a monthly or quarterly basis that include the Fund's estimated performance and NAV after the end of each reporting period. Investors should carefully review all account statements and other communications they receive from the Fund's administrator.

## **ITEM 16. INVESTMENT DISCRETION**

Garda exercises discretionary authority in managing the investments of each Garda Fund based on each Fund's particular investment objectives, policies and strategies disclosed in its Offering Document. Discretionary authority over the Garda Funds is defined by the provisions of the Advisory Agreements between Garda and each Garda Fund.



## **ITEM 17. VOTING CLIENT SECURITIES**

Garda has adopted written proxy voting policies and procedures (the "Proxy Voting Policy") applicable to all Clients where we have voting authority for proxy proposals, amendments, consents or resolutions relating to Client securities including, if any, interests in private investments (collectively "proxies"). Under the Proxy Voting Policy, our primary goal is to vote proxies prudently and solely in the best interest of our Clients, without subordinating the Clients' interests to our own.

Garda will vote each Client's proxies in the manner that it believes is consistent with achieving the Client's investment objectives. Unless otherwise specified in a written agreement between Garda and the Client or otherwise set out in the Offering Document, the only factors to be considered in voting proxies are those that would affect the value of Client assets.

Absent a particular reason to the contrary, it is Garda's practice to generally vote in accordance with the recommendation of the underlying portfolio company's management on routine matters. In the case of non-recurring or extraordinary matters such as a material change in business terms, Garda will consider the vote on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the goals of maximizing the value of the Client's positions. Garda may also, on occasion, determine to abstain from voting a proxy or a specific proxy item when we conclude that the potential benefit of voting is outweighed by the cost or otherwise believe it is not in the Client's best interest to vote.

When a Client has authorized Garda to vote proxies on its behalf, Garda will generally not accept instructions from the Client regarding how to vote proxies. Clients and investors in Funds managed by Garda may request a copy of our Proxy Voting Policy, as well as proxy voting records relevant to their account, by contacting us at the address or telephone number listed on the first page of this brochure.

## **ITEM 18. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

As of the date of this brochure, Garda does not solicit fees more than six months in advance, has no financial commitment that impairs its ability to meet contractual and fiduciary commitments to Clients, and has not been the subject of a bankruptcy proceeding. As such, a balance sheet is not required to be provided.